N, and X in positions 17-25 are -G-P-P-V-S-C-I-K-R (SEQ ID NO: 101), which gives a peptide the sequence which is SEQ. ID. NO. 2. The linear form is obtained through protection of the cysteine side chains by acetamidomethyl groups $CH_3CONHCH_2$-.

Kingly replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 13, with the following:

The fourth embodiment of the invention relates to peptides consisting of 12 amino acids. The peptides are based on a modification of the sequence consisting of the amino acids in positions 20-31 in human lactoferrin, counted from the N-terminal end, corresponding to SEQ. ID. NO. 46. The sequences for the peptides according to the third embodiment of the inventions are SEQ. ID. NO. 68-99 in the appended sequence listing. In the general sequence, SEQ. ID. NO. 99, Xaa in position 3 is preferably Gln or Ala, Xaa in position 4 is preferably Trp or Leu, Xaa in position 5 is preferably Gln, Lys, Orn, Ala, or Nle, Xaa in position 6 is preferably Arg, Lys or Ala, Xaa in position 7 is preferably Asn, Orn, Ala, or Nle, Xaa in position 8 is preferably Met or Leu, and Xaa in position 9 is preferably Arg or Lys. In some cases it may be advantageous to let this sequence be proceeded by the sequence Thr-Lys or the longer sequence Glu-Ala-Thr-Lys (SEQ ID NO: 102).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace claims 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, and 63 as follows:

57. (Amended) The peptide of claim 54, wherein the peptide further comprises GPPVSCIKR (SEQ ID NO: 101) at the carboxy terminus or a functionally equivalent homolog or analog of the peptide.